

I-5 – South King County Projects Update

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Federal Way Traffic Closures This Week

Interstate 5

- **Two lanes of southbound I-5** will close Monday through Thursday nights (Aug. 1-4) from S. 320th to the Pierce County line. The first lane will close at 8 p.m., the second at 11 p.m. Both lanes will reopen by 6 a.m. each morning. Crews are hauling material from the median.
- The **far left lane of southbound I-5** will close Monday through Friday (Aug. 1-5) between Military Road and S. 320th from 7 p.m. each night to 1 p.m. each following afternoon. The lane will be open between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. each day. Crews are removing the temporary roadway in the median.
- Drivers should expect daytime **shoulder closures** on I-5 from S. 320th to the Pierce County line for electrical work.

Highway 18

- Drivers should expect nighttime closures of **one lane in each direction of Highway 18** near I-5 from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. Tuesday night (Aug. 2) for drainage installation.
- Drivers should expect daytime **shoulder closures** on Highway 18 in the I-5 vicinity for electrical work.

Construction Updates

Sound Transit's Federal Way Transit Center

The five-story garage for Sound Transit's new Federal Way Transit Center is basically complete. Crews are now working on the passenger loading area. View a [current photo](#) of the transit center site, and visit [Sound Transit's project page](#) for more information.

I-5 - S. 317th HOV Direct Access

Military Road South to South 320th Street

Crews continue removing the temporary roadway in the I-5 median and building HOV ramp walls. We finished removing scaffolding from the northbound I-5 bridge over Military Road, and we poured concrete for the median barrier at the north end of the project. Please view our [new I-5 - S. 317th construction photos](#).

I-5 HOV Widening

South 320th Street to the King/Pierce County Line

Crews continue clearing and excavating the median. Work continues on the retaining wall in the median at S. 375th. This wall is necessary to separate the higher northbound lanes from the lower southbound lanes. Crews are continue building foundations to widen the northbound and southbound I-5 bridges at S. 336th and installing drainage and electrical systems. We're setting barrier this week on Highway 18 near I-5. For more information, please visit the [I-5 HOV widening page](#).

How do we build a direct access ramp wall?

The walls that will support the new HOV direct access ramps in the I-5 median at S. 317th are MSE (mechanically stabilized earth) walls. First we bring in "pre-cast" concrete panels that were manufactured off-site (instead of pouring concrete for the wall on site, known as "cast-in-place"). The panels have steel "handles" on the back. We place the panels vertically, and then attach steel grids to the handles on the back of the panels. Then we bury these steel grids in the fill. The weight of the fill material strengthens the wall.

MSE walls can be built quickly and are especially resistant to damage from earthquakes because they are relatively flexible. Visit our Web site to see a photo of the [MSE wall](#) being built at S. 317th.

Highway Advisory Radio Updates

Tune your radio to **AM 1520** to hear a new project update each week on I-5 in Federal Way. Questions or comments? E-mail Laura Johnson at JohnsoL@wsdot.wa.gov.

About This E-mail

Please forward this e-mail to others who might be interested. To join our list, send an e-mail to lyris@lists.wsdot.wa.gov with "subscribe fedway-i5-317th-l" in the body of the e-mail. If you have any questions, contact Laura Johnson at JohnsoL@wsdot.wa.gov.
